

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SOVEREIGN BANK,

Plaintiff,

- against -

MICHAEL J. ELLIS, DOUGLAS  
MOSKOWITZ, STEVEN F. PAUL, THE  
MICHAEL J. ELLIS REVOCABLE TRUST,  
THE DOUGLAS MOSKOWITZ  
REVOCABLE TRUST,

Defendants.

ECF CASE

09 Civ. 02597 (PGG)

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DOC # \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE FILED: 7/22/09

**SCHEDULING ORDER**

PAUL G. GARDEPHE, U.S.D.J.:

After consultation with counsel for the parties, the Court adopts the following Civil Case Management Plan and Scheduling Order, in accordance with Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 16 and 26(f).

1. **The next status conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on November 4, 2009.**
2. Defendants may implead third parties on or before **August 31, 2009**. Otherwise, no party may amend its pleadings or join additional parties except with leave of the Court. Except for good cause shown, any motion to amend pleadings or join additional parties must be filed on or before **September 18, 2009**.
3. The parties must complete their initial disclosures under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1) on or before **September 4, 2009**.
4. The parties must complete fact discovery no later than **December 4, 2009**.
5. If all parties consent in writing, they may extend the following interim deadlines without application to the Court, provided that the parties complete all fact discovery by the date set forth in paragraph 4. Under this Order's interim deadlines, the parties must:
  - a. Serve initial requests for production of documents on or before **September 18, 2009**.
  - b. Serve interrogatories on or before **September 18, 2009**.
  - c. Complete depositions of fact witnesses by **December 4, 2009**.

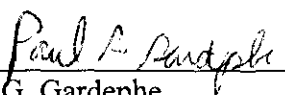
- i. Unless the parties agree or the Court so orders, the parties may not hold depositions until all parties have responded to initial requests for document production.
    - ii. There is no priority in deposition by reason of a party's status as plaintiff or defendant.
    - iii. Unless the parties agree or the Court so orders, non-party depositions must follow initial party depositions.
    - iv. Consistent with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(d), the parties may not extend depositions beyond one business day without prior leave of the Court.
  - d. Serve requests to admit no later than **December 4, 2009**.
6. Expert Testimony: If all parties consent in writing, they may extend the following interim deadlines without application to the Court, provided that the parties complete all expert discovery by the date set forth in paragraph 8(c).
- a. Every party-proponent that intends to offer expert testimony in respect of a claim — including any counterclaim, cross-claim or third-party claim — must make the disclosures required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2) by **October 30, 2009**. Every party-opponent of such claim that intends to offer expert testimony in respect of such claim must make the disclosures required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2) by **November 13, 2009**.
  - b. No party may offer expert testimony—whether designated as “rebuttal” or otherwise—beyond the scope of the opinions that the aforesaid disclosures cover, except with leave of the Court, application for which must be made no later than 7 calendar days after the latter of the dates specified in paragraph 8(a). The parties may depose all experts, but such depositions must occur within the time limit set forth for expert discovery in paragraph 8(c).
  - c. All expert discovery—including expert depositions, if any — must be completed no later than **December 4, 2009**.
7. Settlement: No later than 14 days following the close of fact discovery, all counsel must meet face-to-face for at least one hour to discuss settlement.
8. Parties may make post-discovery dispositive motions in accordance with the Court's Individual Practices and the following schedule:
- a. Parties must serve moving papers, if any, by **January 15, 2009**.
  - b. Parties must serve opposition papers, if any, by **February 15, 2009**.
  - c. Parties must serve reply papers, if any, by **March 1, 2009**.

9. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, within 30 days from the date for the completion of discovery in a civil case or, if a party has filed a dispositive motion, then within 30 days of a decision resolving the motion, the parties shall submit to the Court for its approval a joint pretrial order prepared in accordance with the Court's Individual Practices and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(3).
10. At the close of discovery or, if a party has filed a dispositive motion, then within 30 days of a decision resolving the motion, the Court will set a Ready Trial Date. At any time on or after the Ready Trial Date, the Court may call the parties to trial upon 48 hours' notice. Therefore, counsel must notify the Court and their adversaries in writing of any potential scheduling conflicts — including, but not limited to, trials and vacations — that would prevent a trial at a particular time. Such notice must come before the Court notifies counsel of an actual trial date, not after counsel receives notification of the actual trial date. Counsel should notify the Court and all other counsel in writing, at the earliest possible time, of any scheduling problems involving out-of-town witnesses or other exigencies.
11. Where the parties resolve the case before the entry of judgment, they must submit a stipulation of discontinuance — signed by all parties — before the Court will remove the case from the trial calendar. If the parties settle within 48 hours of trial or the filing of a dispositive motion, they must immediately notify the Court of such settlement, and fax to the Court no less than 36 hours before their planned appearance, a stipulation of discontinuance, signed by all parties.

This ORDER may not be modified or the dates herein extended, except by further Order of this Court for good cause shown. Any application to modify or extend must be made in a written application in accordance with paragraph 1(E) of the Court's Individual Practices and must be made no less than five (5) days before the expiration of the date sought to be extended.

Dated: New York, New York  
July 22, 2009

SO ORDERED.

  
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Paul G. Gardephe  
United States District Judge